



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/508,963	09/23/2004	Eric Calmels	FR02 0022 US	8185

24738 7590 12/13/2007  
PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NORTH AMERICA CORPORATION  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
370 W. TRIMBLE ROAD MS 91/MG  
SAN JOSE, CA 95131

EXAMINER
----------

ANDRAMUNO, FRANKLIN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2623

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

12/13/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/508,963	Applicant(s) CALMELS ET AL.	
	Examiner Franklin S. Andramuno	Art Unit 2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09/23/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09/23/04 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/23/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Swix et al (Pub. No. 2004/0250273 A1). Hereinafter referred as Swix.

Regarding claim 1, Swix discloses a method for updating with new features a STB product (**Switch (100) in figure 1**) having basic functions implemented on a main circuit board in the STB product (**Tuner/Demodulator (102) in figure 1**), said features being included in separated modular blocks characterized in that several different kinds of modular blocks able to carry out different groups of features are sold as different packs to end-users and are intended to be plugged to the main circuit board of the STB product by end-users themselves with an unique kind of means of connection for all kinds of modular blocks (**TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1**).

Regarding claim 2, Swix discloses a method according to claim 1, characterized in that means of connection are performed by a female connector on the modular block

side and by an emulated and metalized part of the main board on the STB product side  
**(Female connectors TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1).**

Regarding claim 3, Swix discloses a method according to claim 1, characterized in that some specific features **(Bluetooth transceiver (144) in figure 2)** among all features carried out by the different kinds of modular blocks **( Stream management (150) in figure 2)** have, each, dedicated connection sub-means included in said means of connection, others features sharing the remaining part of said connection means **(Data switch/router (105) in figure 2).**

Regarding claims 4 and 11, Swix discloses a method and a separated modular block according to claims 3 and 8, characterized in that said specific features are included in the group formed by a smart card reader **(Auxiliary Multimedia Input (166) in figure 2)**, a modem **(Processor (130) in figure 2)**, a memory **(mass storage (103) in figure 2).**

Regarding claim 5, Swix discloses a basic STB product having basic functions implemented on a main circuit board in the STB product **(Switch (100) in figure 1)** and means for connecting at least a separated modular block including new features for the STB product **(Radio (60) in figure 1)**, characterized in that said means for connecting are compatible with several different kinds of modular blocks able to carry out different groups of features, said modular blocks being sold as different packs to end-users **(TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1).**

Regarding claim 6, Swix discloses a basic STB product according to claim 5, characterized in that an emulated and metalized part of the main board serve as connection means with said modular blocks (**Connectors (141), (142), (143), (144) in figure 1**).

Regarding claim 7, Swix discloses a basic STB product according to claim 5, characterized in that some specific features among all features carried out by the different kinds of modular blocks (**TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1**) have, each, dedicated connection sub-means included in said means of connection, others features sharing the remaining part of said connection means (**Connectors (141), (142), (143), (144) in figure 1**).

Regarding claim 8, Swix discloses a separated modular block able to carry out a group of features intended to update a STB product having basic functions implemented on a main circuit board in the STB product (**Switch (100) in figure 1**), characterized in that said modular block is sold as a pack to end-users, said modular block being intended to be plugged to the main circuit board of the STB product by an end-user himself with means of connection (**Radio Connection (60) in figure 1**), said means of connection being compatible with different kinds of modular blocks carrying out different groups of features (**TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1**).

Regarding claim 9, Swix discloses a separated modular block according to claim 8, characterized in that a female connector serve as connection means with said STB

product (**Female connectors TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1).**

Regarding claim 10, Swix discloses a separated modular block according to claim 8, characterized in that some specific features among all features carried out by the different kinds of modular blocks (**TV (40), Computer (50), Radio (60), PDA (80) in figure 1)** have, each, dedicated connection sub-means included in said means of connection, others features sharing the remaining part of said connection means (**Connectors (141), (142), (143), (144) in figure 1).**

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Franklin S. Andramuno whose telephone number is 571-270-3004. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs (7:30am - 5:00pm) alternate Fri off (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on (571)272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:  
10/508,963  
Art Unit: 2623

Page 6

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
**CHRIS KELLEY**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**